



SN-US020838

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:	
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Takeshi IKUTA et al.	:	Patent Art Unit: 3683
	:	
Serial No. 10/750,869	:	Examiner: NGUYEN, XUAN LAN T
	:	
Filed: January 1, 2004	:	
	:	
For: BRAKING DEVICE FOR A DUAL	:	
BEARING REEL	:	
	:	

RESPONSE TO ELECTION / RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

The election/restriction requirement dated March 21, 2005 holds that this application contains claims directed to three patentably distinct species. More specifically, Applicants are required to elect one of the following patentably distinct groups for prosecution on the merits under 35 U.S.C. §121:

- Species Group A - Figures 1-10;
- Species Group B - Figure 12-15; and
- Species Group C - Figure 16-17B.

Additionally, the Office Action indicates that at least claim 1 is generic.

In response, Applicants hereby elect the species group A illustrated in Figures 1-10 without traverse. Figures 1-10 illustrate the first embodiment of the present invention. Applicant believes that claims 1-12 read on Figures 1-10.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request examination of claims 1-12 since they read on the elected species shown in Figures 1-10. Claims 13-18 are believed to be directed to non-


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Reply to Office Action of March 21, 2005

elected embodiments. Thus, claims 13-18 can be withdrawn from consideration. However, Applicants respectfully request that these non-elected claims be considered upon the allowance of a generic claim in accordance with the U.S. patent practice.

* * *

Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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